

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

1. (Currently Amended) An  $\alpha_2$ -antiplasmin cleaving enzyme, comprising:  
a purified protein having a molecular weight of about 180 kDa ~~in a dimeric form~~ as determined by SDS-PAGE in a dimeric form, wherein each subunit of the dimeric form has a molecular weight of about 97 kDa ~~as determined by SDS-PAGE~~(SDS-PAGE), and has ~~an N-terminal sequence having an N-terminal amino acid and wherein the N-terminal sequence is SEQ ID NO:1 and the~~ has an N-terminal amino acid consisting of is-isoleucine as set forth in SEQ ID No.: 1, and the said protein further comprising internal sequences ~~comprising~~ as set forth in SEQ ID NO:4, SEQ ID NO:5, SEQ ID NO:6, SEQ ID NO:7, and SEQ ID NO:8, and wherein the enzyme cleaves precursor  $\alpha_2$ -antiplasmin at the pro12-asn13 bond.
2. (Original) The  $\alpha_2$ -antiplasmin cleaving enzyme of claim 1 having an optimum activity at pH=7.5  $\pm$  0.2.
- 3 - 21. (Withdrawn)